Ane Shorte and generall Confession of the TREWE CHRISTIANE FAITH AND RELIGION, ACCORDING to Godis worde and actis of our Parliamentis, Subscriued be the kingis Maiestie and his housholde, with sindrie vtheris, To the glorie of God and good example of all men, At Edinburgh the Twentie eyght day of Januarie, The yere of God. Ane Thousand, Fyue Hundreth, Fourescore yeres. And the fourtene yere of his Maiesteis Regne.

WE all and euerie one of vs vnderwritten protest, that after long and dew examination of our awne Consciencis, in maters of trewe and fals Religion, are now throughly resolued in the trueth, by the worde and spirit of God. And therefore we beleue with our hartis, confesse with our mouthes, Subscryue with our hands, and constantly affirme before God and the whole worlde. That this onely is the true Christian Faith and Religion, pleasing God, and bringing Saluation to man, quhilk is now by the mercy of God reuelit to the world, by the preaching of the blessed Euangell. And is receaued, beleued, and defended by many and sindrie notable Kirkis and Realmes, but cheiflie by the Kirk of Scotland, The Kings Maiestie and thre Estates of this Realme, As Gods eternall trueth, and onely ground of our Saluation, as more particularly is expressed in the confession of our Faith, stablished and publictly confirmed by sindrie actis of Parliamentis, and now of a long time hath bene optinly professed by the Kings Maiestie, & whole body of this Realme, both in burgh and land. To the quhilk confession and forme of Religion, we willingly aggree in our consciencis in all pointis, as vnto Gods vndouted trueth and veritie, grounded onely vpon his written worde. And therefore we abhorre and detest al contrarie Religion and doctrine, But cheiflie all kynde of Papistrie in generall and particulare heidis, euen as they are now damned and confuted by the worde of God and Kirk of Scotland, but inspeciall we detest and refuse the vsurped authoritie of that Romaine Antichrist vpon the scriptures of God, vpon the Kirk, the ciuile magistrate & conscience of men. All his tyrannous Lawes made vpon indifferent things, against our Christiane libertie. His erroneous doctrine against the sufficiencie of the written worde, the perfection of the Law, the office of Christ, and his blessed Euangell. His corrupted doctrine concerning originall sinne, our naturall inabilitie and rebellion to Gods law. Our iustification by Faith only. Our inperfect sanctification and obedience to the law, the nature, number and vse of the holie Sacraments. His fyue bastard Sacraments, with all his rytis, ceremonеis, and fals doctrine added to the ministration of the trew Sacraments without the word of God. His cruell Judgement against Infants departing without the Sacrament, his absolute necessitie of Baptisme, his blasphemous opinion of transubstantiation, or reall presence of Christis body in the elements, and receauing of the same by the wicked, or bodeis of men. His dispensationis with solemnet othes, Periureis, and degrees of mariage forbidden in the worde, his cruelitie against the Innocent deuorced, His diuilishe Messe. his blasphemous Preisthеid, his prophane sacrifice for the sinnes of the dead & the quick. His Canonization of men, calling vpon Angels, or Sanctis departed, worshipping of Imagrie, relicks, & croces, dedicatig of Kirks, Altars, Dayis, Vowes to creatures. His Purgatorie, prayers for the deid. playing or speking in a strange language, with his processiones and blasphemous letanie, and multitude of Aduocats or Mediatouris. His manifold ordouris, Auriculare confession, his desperet and vncertaine repentance, his generall and doutsome faith, his satisfactiones of men for their synnes, his Justification by workes, Opus Operatum, workes of supererogation, meritis pardones, peregrinationis and stationis, his holy watter, Baptisting of Bellis, Conturing of spiritis, Crossing, Saning Anointing, Coniuring, Hallowing of godis good Creatures, with the superstitious opinion ioyned therewith, his wardly Monarchie, & wicked hierarchie, his thre solemned vowes, with al his shawellingis of sindrie sorts. His erroneous and bloodie decreis maid at Trent, with al the subscryuers and approuers of that cruel and bloody band, conuired against the Kirk of God. And finally we detestе all his vaine allegoreis, Ritis, signes, and traditionis broght in the Kirk without, or against the word of God and doctrine of this trewe reformed Kirk. To the quhilk we ioyne our selues willingly, in doctrine, Faith, Religion, Discipline & vse of the holie Sacraments, as lyuelie membes of the same in Christ our head, promising and swearing by the great Name of the Lord our God, that we shall continue in the obedience of the doctrine and discipline of this Kirk, and shall defend the same according to our vocation and power, all the dayes of our lyues, vnder the panes contened in the law, and danger both of body, & soule, in the day of Gods feareful Judgement. And seing that manie are entred in by Satan, and that Romane Antichrist, to prome, sweare, subscryue, & for a time vse the holie Sacraments in the Kirk deceitfully against their owne conscience, minding hereby, First vnder the external Cloke of Religion, to corrupt and subuert secretely Gods trew Religion within the Kirk, and afterward when tyme may serue, to become open enemies and persecuters of the same, vnder vaine hope of the Popes dispensation deuised against the word of God, to his greater confusion, & their dowble condēnation in the day of the Lord Jesus, We therefore willing to take away all suspition of hypocrisie, and of sic dowble dealing with God and his Kirk, protest and call the searcher of all hearts for Witnes, that our myndis & heartis do fully aggree with this our confession, promise, othe, and Subscription. So that we are not moued for any worldly respect, but are perswaded onely in our conscience, throughe the knowledge and loue of [illegible] ion, wrought in our hearts by the holie Spirite, as we shal answer to him in the day when the secretes [illegible] walbe disclosed. And because we perceaue, that the quietnes and stabilitie of our Religion and Kirk doeth depend vpon the sauetie and good behauiour of the kingis Maiestie, as vpon ane comfortable Instrument of Godis mercy, graunted to this Countrey, for the maintening of his Kirk, and ministration of Justice amongs vs. We protest and promes with our hartis, vnder the same othe, hand writ, and panes, that we sal defend his persone and authoritie, with our geir, bodeis, and lyues, in the defene of Christis Euangel, Libertie of our Countrey, ministration of Justice, and punishment of Iniquitie against al enemis within this Realme or without, as we desyre our God to be a strong and mercifull defender to vs, in the day of our death, and cumming of our Lord Jesus Christ. To whome with the Father and the holie Spirite, be all honour and glorie eternally Amen.

¶ The kingis Maiesteis charge to all Commissioners and Ministers within this Realme.

SEing, that we and our Houshold haue subscriuit and geuen this publict confession of our faith, to the good exemple of our Subiectis. We command and charge all Commissioners and Ministers, to raue the same confession of theire parochinars, and procead against the refusers, according to our Lawes and order of the Kirk, delyuering theire names and lawful processe to the Ministers of our house, with allhaste and diligence, vnder the payne of xl pouud, to be taken from theire stipend, that we with the aduise of our Counsel may take ordour with sic proud contemners of God and our lawes. Subscryued with our hand. At Holyrudhous, (1580.) the 2 day of march, the 14 yeir of our regne.

¶ Imprented at Edinburgh be Robert Lekprewike.